

1. An airbag module, comprising:

a cover and a reaction housing, wherein the cover or the reaction housing has a plurality of mounting projections and at least one Z-height control tab, and the other of the cover or the reaction housing comprises a skirt with a plurality of windows corresponding to the mounting projections, such that the mounting projections engage the windows to define a Z-height, and the Z-height control tab engaging the skirt to substantially maintain the defined Z-height.

2. The airbag module in claim 1 wherein the reaction housing is made of stamped metal.

3. The airbag module in claim 1 wherein the Z-height control tab engages the skirt at an angle sufficient to prevent substantial Z-height movement.

4. The airbag module in claim 1 wherein the Z-height control tab engages the skirt generally perpendicularly to the skirt.

5. The airbag module in claim 1 wherein the reaction housing comprises the Z-height tab and the reaction housing further comprising a reaction surface.

6. The airbag module in claim 5 wherein the Z-height control tab is aligned generally parallel to a plane extending across the surface of the reaction plate.

7. The airbag module in claim 5 wherein the Z-height control tab is aligned from about 5° to about a 15° angle to the plane extending across the surface of the reaction plate.

8. The airbag module in claim 1 wherein the tab is semi-deflectable.

9. The airbag module in claim 1 wherein the Z-height control tab engages the skirt in a net fit.

10. The airbag module in claim 1 wherein the Z-height control tab engages the skirt in an interference fit.

11. The airbag module in claim 1 wherein the Z-height control tab is integrally formed in the cover or the reaction housing.

12. The airbag module in claim 1 wherein the skirt has a top edge and the Z-height control tab engages a notch in the top edge.

13. The airbag module in claim 1 wherein the Z-height control tab engage at least one window in the skirt.

14. The airbag module in claim 1 wherein the window is a recess in the skirt

15. The airbag module in claim 1 wherein the cover or the reaction housing comprising the Z-height control tab has a perimeter edge and the Z-height control tab projects outward from perimeter edge to engage the other member.

16. The airbag module in claim 15 wherein the mounting projections extend further from the perimeter edge than the Z-height control tab.

17. The airbag module in claim 1 wherein the reaction housing has a shoulder and the tab is formed from stamping out a section of the shoulder.

18. An airbag module comprising:

5 a cover having a front panel and a skirt, the skirt having a plurality of windows;
and

a reaction housing having a plurality of integrally formed mounting projections, the mounting projections engaging the windows to define a storage volume, the housing further comprising at least one integrally formed Z-height control tab engaging the cover.

19. The airbag module in claim 18 wherein the Z-height control tab engage the skirt to maintain a defined Z-height .

20. The airbag module in claim 19 wherein the reaction housing is made of stamped-metal.

21. The airbag module in claim 18 wherein the Z-height control tab engages the skirt at an angle sufficient to prevent significant Z-height movement.

22. The airbag module in claim 18 wherein the Z-height control tab engages the skirt at a generally perpendicular engagement.

23. The airbag module in claim 18 wherein the tab is semi-deflectable.

24. The airbag module in claim 18 wherein the Z-height control tab engages the skirt in a net fit.

25. The airbag module in claim 18 wherein the Z-height control tab engages the skirt in an interference fit.

26. The airbag module in claim 18 wherein the skirt has a top edge and the Z-height control tab engages a notch in the top edge.

27. The airbag module in claim 18 wherein the Z-height control tab engages at least one window in the skirt.

28. The airbag module in claim 18 wherein the window is a recess in the skirt.

29. The airbag module in claim 18 wherein the reaction housing has a perimeter edge and wherein the Z-height control tab projects outward from the perimeter edge to engage the cover.

30. The airbag module in claim 30 wherein the mounting projections extend further from the perimeter edge of the reaction housing than the Z-height control tab.

31. The airbag module in claim 18 wherein the reaction housing has a shoulder and the tab is formed from stamping out a section of the shoulder.

32. A airbag reaction housing comprising:

a cover having a front panel with a plurality of windows; and

a metal-stamped reaction housing having a plurality of integrally formed mounting projections, the mounting projections engaging the windows to substantially maintain a Z-height in a tensile direction, the reaction housing further comprising at least one integrally formed Z-height control tab engaging the cover to substantially maintain the Z-height in a compressive direction.

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